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An Appeal to Responsible Citizenship

Despite the best efforts of thousands of public-spirited citizens, both black and white, who are hard at work to solve the economic and social problems of Newark, there are disturbing signs that racial tensions and misunderstandings remain at dangerously high levels.

The recent student violence at Barringer High School, the distribution of racist literature throughout the City, and the verbal abuse heaped upon the clergy at a City Council meeting are evidence of the racial friction in Newark today.

We commend the clergy and seven of the nine City Councilmen who recently set aside an emotional issue. They recognized that to do otherwise was to further inflame racial tension in the City.

We appeal to responsible citizens to:

- Destroy false rumors and hate literature, and discourage actions which set one group of Newarkers against another.
- Identify, isolate, and expose extremists — both black and white — who spread a message of hate and destruction.
- Make known your support of constructive action by political, business, civic, and religious leaders.
- Join now in a more active participation in the rebuilding of our City.

COMMITTEE OF CONCERN

53 Washington Street

Newark, New Jersey